

Implementing Total Quality Leadership

Lesson Nine

The Quality Philosophy

Objectives

- λ **Describe why a quality philosophy is developed within an organization**
- λ **Describe how to develop a quality philosophy within an organization**
- λ **Describe the relationship of the quality philosophy to TQL implementation.**

A Quality Philosophy

A system of fundamental or motivating principles that form the basis for action or belief.

The Quality Philosophy . . .

- λ **Reflects the thinking of top leaders**
- λ **Reflects the values of top leaders**
- λ **Becomes stronger over time**

Benefits

- λ **Guides the creation of an enabling environment**
- λ **Fosters cooperation**
- λ **Supports the mission**
- λ **Helps create a learning organization**
- λ **Supports the establishment of command-wide process management**

Prerequisites

- λ **ESC has knowledge of TQL**
- λ **ESC is committed to quality**

Top Leaders Should Examine the Following:

- λ What values should govern how we do business?**
- λ What quality means to our customers?**
- λ Does it change the way we do business?**
- λ How do we want to be known by those that use our products and services?**
- λ How do we want to be known by those within the boundaries of our own organization?**

Once the Quality Philosophy Has Been Developed

- λ Should be *written* but not *published*
- λ Once understood and refined:
 - ω Hold discussions
 - ω Write articles
 - ω Practice it

Summary

- λ **The top leaders' ideas about quality should be formulated into a comprehensive statement of their commitment to it**
- λ **The quality philosophy forms the basis for actions and beliefs**
- λ **The quality philosophy is communicated, through actions, to the organization and incorporated into implementation activities**